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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **JUNE 24, 2016**

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Dr. Edward Reading at 9:41 a.m. in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Edward Reading, Ph.D., LCADC, Committee Chair
Sylvia Lippe, LCADC, Committee Vice Chair
Norwood Allen, CADC, Committee Member
Jamie Lugo, CADC, Committee Member

Also Present:

Nancy Miller - Deputy Attorney General
Milagros Collazo - Executive Director
ToniAnn Petrella-Diaz - Confidential Assistant
Celeste Paige - Administrative Assistant

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Record, and the Courier Post and also posted on the Committee's web page.

Announcement of Quorum

Committee Chair Dr. Reading announced the presence of a quorum at 9:41 a.m.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

May 20, 2016 Public Minutes

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Jamie Lugo, the Committee voted to approve the May 20, 2016 minutes as amended. Voting in favor: all.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Conte - LPC, LCADC, Clinical Workforce Developmental Specialist - DMHAS
Tony Polizzi - Traniner/ LCADC - NJPN

V. LEGISLATIVE REGULATORY

A. Assembly Joint Resolution 102

The Board reviewed Assembly Joint Resolution 102 which designates September of each year as “Youth Suicide Prevention Month” in New Jersey.

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this resolution with the addition of sexual identity among adolescents to the bill. Voting in favor: all.

B. Assembly Bill 3712

The Board reviewed Assembly Bill 3712 which seeks to require certain health benefit plans to provide treatment for substance abuse and dependency when determined medically necessary by a physician or psychologist.

Upon motion made by Jaime Lugo, and seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to support this bill with the addition of including that only listing psychiatrists and psychologists is very limiting and should include all mental health professionals working within the scope of practice to provide treatment for substance abuse and beyond, and to use current DSM terminology. Voting in favor: all.

C. Assembly Bill 3744

The Board reviewed Assembly Bill 3744 which seeks to establish law enforcement assisted addiction and recovery programs.

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill with the addition of clarification on how the volunteer is chosen, what is the screening process, and there should be a certification or licensure for the volunteer for the safety of everyone involved. The Committee further commented that the national scope of practice needs to be modified to develop and support a third tier of certification/licensure so that the public and the certification/ licensees are protected. Voting in favor: all.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Executive Director Collazo announced the annual Election of Officers pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:2D-13.

Sylvia Lippe made a nomination for Ed Reading for Committee Chair, seconded by Norwood Allen. Committee approves nomination for Ed Reading for Committee Chair. Voting in favor: all.

Norwood Allen made a nomination for Sylvia Lippe for Committee Vice Chair, seconded by Jaime Lugo. Committee approves nomination for Sylvia Lippe for Committee Vice Chair. Voting in favor: all.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Executive Director Collazo presented the Licensing Activity Report for Committee review. There are currently 2,746 active licenses for Alcohol and Drug Counselors (CADC/ LCADC), 1,232 applications pending and 14 reinstatements pending.

*Pending applications include: Applications pending final Committee review/ approval, incomplete applications, applications waiting for exam results, and applications that have been abandoned.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

No items to report.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

Thomas Dwyer, LPC, LCADC

The Board reviewed the May 23, 2016 letter regarding Mr. Dwyer's pro bono community service.

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Jaime Lugo, the Committee voted to inform Mr. Dwyer that there are no exceptions for compensated practice and refer him to N.J.S.A. 45:2D-9 for compliance with charging clients for services. Voting in favor: all.

X. FILED ORDERS

No items to report.

XI. Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey MATTERS (APCBNJ)

No items to report.

XII. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Service Matters (DMHAS)

Elizabeth Conte - LPC, LCADC, Clinical Workforce Developmental Specialist - DMHAS - commented to the Committee that New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN) held 3 days of ethics training for certified peer recovery specialists at the APCBNJ and that this training will satisfy the requirements of the Opiate Overdose Response Program (OORP). DMHAS is waiting for approval from the APCBNJ that this training will satisfy the need for individuals to be grandfathered into the new APCBNJ certified peer recovery specialist. DMHAS continues to investigate and solicit feedback from stakeholders including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), regarding the level of education training and experience that best represents the core competencies in individuals required to work as peer specialists in DMHAS licensed facilities and funded initiative in New Jersey.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for **July 22, 2016 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.**

Meeting Dates for 2016

July 22, 2016

August 26, 2016

September 23, 2016

October 28, 2016

November 18, 2016

December 16, 2016

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Norwood Allen, and seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to enter Executive Session at 10:41 a.m. to review applications, plans of supervision, consumer complaints, and other pending disciplinary and investigatory matters. Voting in favor: all.

XV. REVIEW OF CREDENTIALS

The Committee reviewed the following applications for licensure and certification for approval.

A. LCADC Approved

MAY 2016

1. Comfort Adjei
2. Janette J. Sheppard
3. Larena M. Wilde

B. LCADC

MAY 2016

1. Lisa A. Cordasco
2. Holly Duncan
3. Ahlem M. Elbedewe
4. Jamie N. Gregori
5. Jessica Janson
6. Nadira Keaton
7. Michael W. Levin
8. Dana Lugassy
9. Christina Rehman
10. Lisa V. Scanga
11. Malik N. Sharif
12. Kimberly A. Veith
13. Geraldine M. Viggiani

C. CADC

MAY 2016

1. Jean M. Calderone
2. Steven A. Evans
3. Deena D. Gutch
4. Shwanda Hargrove
5. Langston B. Johnson
6. Taheira M. Mitchell
7. Susan M. Walker

D. Written and Oral exams approvals

MAY 2016

1. Duane Anderson
2. Nicole M. Catalano
3. Melissa M. Duffy
4. Kevin Elsey
5. Crystal Evans
6. Susan M. Ferrante
7. Jenifer Gonzalez
8. Islam Harun
9. Raymond Lamboy
10. William N. Naughton
11. Adrienne Pollner
12. Joseph C. Rotondi
13. Marla J. Sprock

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to adjourn the June 24, 2016 public session at 12:58 p.m. Voting in favor: all.